

BASIN PLANNING PROGRAM

In the last several years, for all practical purposes, the Basin Planning Program has ceased to exist as attention has been given to the new TMDL Program. Virtually every Basin Planning activity not closely related to TMDLs has been put on hold (i.e., such activities are not even scheduled, as shown **Appendix B, Section 10**) and virtually all Basin Planning funds have been redirected to the TMDL Program. This is an unsatisfactory result of efforts to provide adequate funding for the TMDL program, in response to lawsuits and threats of lawsuits for alleged failure to develop TMDLs in a timely manner. Although TMDLs need to be developed in a timely manner, Basin Planning activities other than those closely related to TMDLs also need to be continued. As **Appendix B, Section 10** suggests, a considerable backlog of Basin Planning projects not closely related to TMDLs has accumulated. SDRWQCB staff intends to pursue funding to resume an active Basin Planning program, particularly for high priority projects.